ON SOME NEOTROPICAL PASSALIDAE

(Coleoptera)

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During the past three years I have had the pleasure of studying and identifying the extensive collection of Passalidae in the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco. I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Department of Entomology there and to Hugh B. Leech, in charge of Coleoptera, for enabling me to examine the collection.

As usual most of the beetles belong to those species which are abundant in every collection, for example *Popilius disjunctus* Illiger, *Passalus punctiger* St. Fargeau et Serville, *Passalus interstitialis* Eschscholtz, etc. Nevertheless a few species, among which one is undescribed, are worth mentioning. A note on a specimen in my private collection may be added.

POPILIUS LENZI Kuwert

Kuwert, 1897. Novitates Zoologicae, 4:301.

The locality of this species, mentioned by Kuwert—the Cocos Islands—has been questioned, the genus being strictly neotropical and all students in Passalidae thinking of the Cocos Islands situated south of Java. There were many specimens of *P. lenzi* in the Academy's collection and Mr. Leech wrote me: "There are two Cocos Islands. The one you have in mind is doubtless that also called Keeling Isl., SW. of Java. But the other one, and the one on which our specimens of *lenzi* were taken, is SW. of Panama, approximately half way between Panama and the Galapagos Islands. It belongs to Costa Rica." Mr. Leech generously sent a beautiful series of *lenzi* for my private collection.

POPILIUS TENUIS Kuwert

Kuwert, 1897. Novitates Zoologicae, 4: 290.

Kuwert placed this species under his genus *Petrejoides*. Gravely (Memoirs Indian Museum, 7(1) : 22, 1918) records *Petrejoides* as a synonym of *Pseudacanthus* Kaup. In the Academy's collection I found one specimen agreeing exactly with Kuwert's description of *tenuis*. The elytra are *not* fused, as is the case in *Pseudacanthus*, consequently the species must be placed under *Popilius* Kaup.

PAXILLUS SCHNEIDERI Kuwert

Kuwert, 1898. Novitates Zoologicae, 5:301.

Mitrorhinus Kaup, by all recent students in Passalidae taken

as a subgenus of *Passalus* Fabricius, contains those species which have a median angular process on the anterior margin of the head. A specimen in my private collection agrees fairly with Kuwert's description of *M. schneideri,* and is also from Peru. The antennae, however, have 5 lamellae; in consequence this specimen should belong to the genus *Paxillus!* Kuwert does not say anything about the antennae.

Passalus dominicanus van Doesburg, new species

This species belongs to the subgenus *Pertinax* Kaup, (amend. Luederwaldt). It is distinguished by the anterior border of the head, the clypeus being visible, separated from the anterior margin by a dull groove running between the outer tubercles. Moreover there is a shallow concavity between the outer tubercle and the angle of the head. This concavity is also dull in contrast with rest of the surface of the head, which is smooth and shining.

Labrum coarsely punctured, hairs long, sides somewhat convergent. *Mandibles* each with three terminal teeth. *Anterior border of head* between outer tubercles straight, without secondary tubercles; below anterior border the *clypeus* is visible as a narrow, vertical burr, separated from anterior border by a dull groove. *Central tubercle* not prominent, careniform, united at its base with the low parietal ridges. *Inner tubercules* less widely separated than outer tubercles, situated nearly half way between central and outer tubercles; they are long, stout, directed forwards and united with central tubercle by straight frontal ridges. The frontal angle is about 90°. Between outer tubercle and anterior angle of head a transverse, dull concavity. *Canthus* prominent laterally beyond eyes. *Occiput* right behind eyes coarsely punctured and provided with a tuft of thick, stiff bristly hairs. Anterior margin of *mentum* concave on either side of middle, primary scars present; middle of mentum smooth, lateral lobes coarsely punctured and hairy. *Antennae* with 3 long lamellae, wholly covered by long, brown hairs.

Pronotum transverse, smooth, with sparse, microscopical punctures all over, median groove complete and very distinct; marginal grooves broad, irregularly provided with coarse punctures, just as their enlarged anterior ends; a few punctures in the distinct scars. *Scutellum* smooth.

Elytra together nearly twice as long as broad, their sides parallel; distinctly grooved, dorsal grooves distinctly punctured, lateral grooves with coarse punctures. *Elytra* and *epipleurae* without hairs. *Metasternal plate* and *intermediate areas* united, entirely smooth, a few punctures only in hind corners. *Lateral areas* narrow, linear, glossy, without hairs. *Scars* of mesosternum scarcely indicated. Anterior angle of mesosternum with two groups of hair-bearing punctures, rest of mesosternum smooth and hairless. *Abdominal sterna* polished, also in the scars. *Legs* but thinly hairy, middle and hind legs without spines. Length 27 to 28 mm.

Six specimens from LA CAPITO, ST. DOMINGO, March 5, 1917,

(R. H. Beck coll.). *Holotype* and 3 *paratypes* in the collection of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, 2 *paratypes* in my collection.

I am indebted to Mr. W. D. Hincks of Manchester, England, for confirming my opinion that the species is new.

NEW RECORDS OF ARACHNIDA FROM ALASKA

(Araneida, Phalangida)

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During the summer of 1951 I spent ten weeks in southeastern Alaska, from the second half of July until the end of October. Although insect collecting was unfortunately incidental to my main occupation a considerable collection was accumulated and in it nearly 1000 specimens of spiders representing 59 species. Several of these are new, and 16 others are not listed from Alaska by Chamberlin and Ivie[1]. Since the new species must await description, only new records will be mentioned here. In addition to the spiders four species of Phalangids were taken of which two, according to Dr. Clarence J. Goodnight of Purdue University who identified them, are additions to the Alaskan fauna in that group. It might be commented by the way that the spider fauna of Alaska must be very imperfectly known if 59 species were taken in a relatively short period of time in an area (southeastern Alaska) from which Chamberlin and Ivie list only 86 species! The entire spider collection is placed in the American Museum of Natural History and for the identification of it I am indebted, as usual, to my friend Dr. Willis J. Gertsch of that institution.

ARANEIDA

Antrodiaetus pacificus Simon. Ketchikan, July 28, (1 male).

Pardosa metlakatla Emerton. Wrangell, July 30–Aug.. 4, (3 females).

Clubiona norvegica Thorell. Port Beauclerc in Kuiu Isl., Aug. 6, (1 female).

Clubiona trivialis Koch. Ketchikan, July 18–28, (1 male and 3 females).

Xysticus pretiosus Gertsch. Ketchikan, July 18–28, (1 male and 1 female); Wrangell, Sept. 1–20, (1 female).